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Message Text

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67
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 PA-02 SS-15

SSO-00 CCO-00 /058 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:JMPOPE:MR
APPROVED BY AF/P:JMPOPE
S/PRS:FBROWN (INFO)
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O P 201502Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US

SUBJECT: SEPT. 17 PRESS BRIEFING RE KISSINGER TRIP

1. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN FRED BROWN, AT SEPT 17 PRESS BRIEFING, READ STATEMENT RE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO ZAIRE AND RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS ABOUT AFRICAN TRIP.

2. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF BRIEFING (BEGIN TEXT):

I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT AT INVITATION OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WILL VISIT ZAIRE ON
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SEPTEMBER 21. HE WILL ARRIVE IN KINSHASA LATE SEPTEMBER 21.

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I HAVE NO FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING HIS VISIT TO ZAIRE.

Q: FRED, DO YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT HIS OTHER TRAVELS? IS HE COMING STRAIGHT BACK FROM ZAIRE, OR IS HE GOING TO GO ON TO IVORY COAST AND --

A: I DO NOT HAVE ANY DETAILS ON THAT AT MOMENT. HOPE-FULLY, ON MONDAY I WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU IDEA OF WHAT HE IS GOING TO DO FOR BALANCE OF WEEK.

Q: FRED, CAN YOU GIVE US ANY INDICATION WHERE RUMORS STARTED THAT KISSINGER HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED?

A: ALL I KNOW ABOUT THAT IS WHAT I HAVE SEEN ON ES-TEEMED WIRE SERVICE REPORTS, AND APPARENTLY IT STARTED IN LONDON --

Q: IN LONDON?

A: -- AND I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING ELSE ON THAT, HENRY.

Q: IS HE GOING TO BE IN SOUTH AFRICA UNTIL THE 21ST? IS ZAIRE NEXT STOP?

A: I DO NOT KNOW, GEORGE. I THINK THAT WOULD PUT HIM IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS.

I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ANYTHING ELSE IS PLANNED ON 20TH OR NOT, WHETHER ANY OTHER STOP IS PLANNED.

Q: NOW, FRED, WHAT GIVES YOU THE IDEA OR THE GUIDANCE THAT IT APPARENTLY STARTED IN LONDON?

A: BECAUSE I BELIEVE I READ IT ON WIRE SERVICE REPORT. BUT IT IS RUMOR AND, AS SUCH, I THINK OF REALLY NO IN-TEREST.

Q: IT SURE WAS FOR A WHILE; (LAUGHTER.)

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A: YES. (END TEXT) ROBINSON

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To: AF POSTS
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